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IN ANY CORRESPONDENCE ON THIS SUDJECT, PLEASE QUOTE NO. PMD 808/816/01 THE RE



OFFICE OF THE MINISTER, MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CO-OPERATIVES, FARMERS' HOUSE, PLOT 6/8, PARLIAMENTARY AVENUE P.O. BOX 7103, KAMPALA, UGANDA

3rd September 2025

The Chairperson,
National Standards Council,
Standards House,
Plot 2-12, By Pass Link,
Bweyogerere Industrial & Business Park,
P.O. Box 6329,
KAMPALA.

DIRECTIVE TO INVESTIGATE SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT AND MALADMINISTRATION AGAINST ENG. JAMES KASIGWA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UGANDA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS (UNBS)

Reference is made to the Uganda National Bureau of Standards Act, and the critical oversight role of the National Standards Council (NSC) in the administration of UNBS as per Section 8(b) of the UNBS Act.

This Ministry has received numerous and persistent reports containing grave allegations of misconduct, maladministration, and potential abuse of office by the Executive Director of UNBS, Eng. James Kasigwa. These allegations, if substantiated, pose a direct threat to Uganda's standards regime, economic security, public safety, and the international credibility of our national quality infrastructure.

The inauguration of the 10th National Standards Council now provides the requisite statutory body to address these concerns. The National Standards Council, in execution of its

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mandate under the UNBS Act, can investigate and verify the allegations captioned below:

- 1. Insubordination and Defiance of Ministerial Policy: Repeated disregard of lawful guidance and directives issued by the Line Ministry.
- 2. Undermining of the PVOC Programme:
 - a. Delaying the signing of crucial service provider contracts, disrupting trade.
 - b. Granting irregular exemptions for the importation of used motor vehicles despite known limitations in testing capacity, jeopardizing public safety.
- 3. Sabotage of the Digital Conformity Marks Programme: Acts including the development of a parallel technology system, leading to inefficiency and potential financial loss.
- 4. Dereliction of Duty regarding Legal Metrology: Neglect of oversight leading to significant financial losses to the government and the perpetuation of unfair trade practices.
- 5. Financial Mismanagement and Fraud: diversion of operational funds to vague and consumptive budgetary lines, and authorization of non-allowable expenditures, including financing foreign travel for Members of Parliament contrary to Government policy.
- 6. Violation of Public Financial Management Laws: Systemic disregard for the PFMA and regulations, frustrating critical operations and projects, and resulting in losses amounting to billions of Shillings.

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The council should accord Eng. James Kasigwa an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

The purpose of this letter, therefore, is to direct you to conduct investigations, and revert to me as soon as possible.

Hon. Francis Mwebesa MINISTER

Copy to: -State Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and
Cooperatives (Trade)
State Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and
Cooperatives (Industry)
State Minister, Ministry of Trade, Industry and
Cooperatives (Cooperatives)